MR. A. GOPALA MENON : Government consider that the time and the labour involved in collecting the information are out of proportion to its possible utility.

Iron Bridge, Quilon.

294. ❋ MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Iron Bridge, Quilon, has become unfit for heavy traffic ;

(*b*) for how long it has been in that state ; and

(*c*) whether any proposal is before them of putting up a new one at that place and if so, of what material ?

MR. M. S. DURASWAMI AIYANGAR (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) The bridge has been declared unfit for heavy traffic.

(*b*) From 1-12-1113.

(*c*) An estimate is under scrutiny for the complete renewal of the platform and abutments making use of the exis ing C I piles and R. S. girders. As per the present proposal, the pla form will be of ascu treated wood and will have an increased roadway of 18. The abutments are proposed to be built of rubble masonry.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN (*Quilon cum Kottarakara*) : May I know when the estimate will be taken up for execution ?

MR. M. S. DURASWAMI AIYANGAR : Certain proposals have just been received and are under scrutiny. As soon as the estimate is sanctioned work will be taken up.

Iron Bridge at Quilon.

295. ❋ MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Iron Bridge at Quilon is open to heavy traffic at present ; and

(*b*) if not, why not ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : (*a*) No.

(*b*) On account of the unsafe condition of the bridge.

Kottarakara-Ezhukone road.

296. ❋ MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the necessity of repairing the Kottarakara-Ezhukone road so as to make it cartable ;

(*b*) whether the condition of the said road causes great hardship to the people of Kottarakara ; and

(*c*) what steps have been taken so far ?

MR. M. S. DORASWAMI AIYANGAR : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) Only a portion of the road is cart road, *i. e.*, except the last one mile. The interested people have been required to surrender the necessary lands free. Some special improvements to the extent of Rs. 120 are proposed to be carried out from the current year's maintenance grant.

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